

moved from Turkeytown, AL, to a place near the Coosa River called Double Springs where they built a log cabin. This structure, the first to be built in what is now the city of Gadsden, still stands near the intersection of Third Street and Tuscaloosa Avenue, its original wall enclosed in an outer frame structure. This house was later used as a stage coach stop and post office on the route from Huntsville, Alabama to Rome, Georgia.

After the Indians were pushed west of the Mississippi River in 1838, many pioneers began moving into the expansive Cherokee Country from North Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee. One of the earliest of these, John S. Moragne, began buying property on the west side of the Coosa River. Another, Joel C. Lewis, settled with his family on the east side. General D.C. Turrentine and his wife moved into the area in 1842, purchased some land at the lower end of what is now Broad Street, and built a hotel called the Turrentine Inn. Surrounding this tract was the land which was to become the actual town site, owned by three of the earliest pioneers: Moragne, Joseph Hughes, and Lewis Rhea. On these 120 acres, the original survey of Gadsden was made in 1846, consisting of 260 lots. Its boundaries were First, Locust, Chestnut, and Sixth Streets.

Shortly before this, a steamboat landing had been located at the foot of Broad Street, then known as Railroad Street. The first steam boat to sail up the river into Gadsden was the Coosa, built by Captain Lafferty on the banks of the Ohio River in Cincinnati and brought to Gadsden on July 4, 1845. The city founders wanted to name their new town Lafferty, but the captain objected. The name Gadsden was instead chosen to honor General James Gadsden, a soldier and diplomat who negotiated the Gadsden Purchase from Mexico.

John Lay, who moved from Virginia to Cherokee Country, was a pioneer in flatboat commerce. His grandson, William Patrick Lay, was later the founder of the Alabama Power Company and the first hydroelectric plant in the world.

General Turrentine organized a group of children into the county's first Sunday School, and from this core grew the religious denominations of the growing town. The First Methodist Church was organized in 1845; the First Baptist Church in 1855; and the First Presbyterian Church in 1860.

By September 1857, the young village of Gadsden had a total of 150 residents. The young, energetic North Carolinian named Robert Benjamin Kyle was typical of those moving into the area round this time. He had already enjoyed a successful business career as a merchant and railroad contractor in Columbus, GA. When he came to Gadsden, his dynamic personal energy, resourcefulness, and capital made him a catalyst for the rapid growth to follow. He saw the need for a lumber business

there and worked diligently to make Gadsden a railroad and steamboat center. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was commissioned as the first recruiting agent for the Confederate Army. In 1862, he and Isaac P. Moragne organized a Gadsden volunteer infantry company which later became Company A, 31st Alabama Volunteers. During the war, the county furnished five companies of soldiers.

After the war and during the Reconstruction Period, Kyle continued to develop Gadsden's natural advantages through lumber manufacturing, railroad construction, and mercantile business. One of his proudest accomplishments was the opening of Kyle's Opera House in 1881. Other churches were established, including Catholic, Episcopalian, Jewish, Christian Scientist, and Lutheran congregations.

In 1867, Etowah County had been carved out of Cherokee, Saint Clair, Marshall, Calhoun, Blount, and DeKalb counties and given the name "Baine," in honor of Colonel D.W. Baine, who had been killed in 1862 with the 14th Alabama Regiment. When the Reconstruction's military government was established in 1868, officials protested so vigorously that the county's name was changed to "Etowah," which is a Cherokee word meaning "good tree," in 1869.

Ten years after the war, Gadsden was no longer a small village: It had over 2,000 inhabitants. Nineteen businesses boasted a trade of more than one million dollars each and the first public school opened in 1877. The 1880's saw the organization of the first fire department, erection of street lamps, and a garbage department. It had become a center for coal, iron ore, timber, and cotton.

By the turn of the century, Gadsden was fast becoming the "Queen City of the Coosa." Industry was looking at and coming its way. In 1895, the Dwight Manufacturing Co. opened a plant in nearby Alabama City. The first steel plant was erected in Gadsden in 1905, the Alabama Power Co. in 1906, and Goodyear in 1929.

During World War I, men from Gadsden fought with the famous "Rainbow" division from the area. Nearby Rainbow City, Rainbow Memorial Bridge, and Rainbow Drive were all named in honor of these servicemen. This division had been raised and coordinated by a young Douglas McArthur.

In 1925, East Gadsden merged with Gadsden, the same year the Alabama School of Trades was built. In 1926, the Nockalula Falls lands were purchased by the city. Today, these grounds are among the most popular and beautiful tourist attractions in Alabama. The Etowah County Memorial Bridge was built and dedicated in 1927. In 1932, Alabama City and Gadsden merged into one city. In 1937, the third largest steel company in the U.S., Republic, came to Gadsden. This plant has been in continuous operation since then.

During World War II, major construction occurred as the Gadsden Ordnance

Plant was built and the Gadsden Air Force Depot was completed. It was closed in 1958.

During the Korean Conflict, the Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded to Gadsden native Ola Lee Mize for bravery during this war. He was later a Green Beret in Vietnam.

Gadsden Mall opened in 1974, the same year that the Nichols Library was added to the National Register. It was the first library in Alabama to issue books to the public. In 1986, Gadsden changed its form of government from a commission type to a mayor-council form.

Today, the city's factories, churches, businesses, schools, and tourism industry stand as testimonials to a heritage of which the citizens of modern Gadsden may be justifiably proud. As it celebrates its 150th anniversary, Gadsden will prove itself once again a "City of Champions" and an "All-American City."

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR JIM EXON

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, before Congress adjourns for the year, I wanted to take a moment to pay tribute to Senator JIM EXON, who is retiring this year.

For more than a quarter-century, JIM EXON has served the people of Nebraska as Governor and as United States Senator. He has represented his state well. JIM EXON has been a leader on budget issues, a good friend to agriculture and the needs of rural America, and an accomplished legislator in the areas of transportation and national defense policy.

I was privileged to serve on the Senate Budget Committee with JIM EXON. He joined the committee in 1979, and in 1995 became the ranking member. Senator EXON and I usually saw eye-to-eye on budget issues, probably because we share Midwestern values about the need to control spending and keep our Nation's fiscal house in order. Senator EXON worked hard for passage of the balanced budget amendment. But his support for the amendment did not stop him from speaking out frankly this year when he believed the issue had become a political football, rather than an honest effort by those who truly wanted to balance the budget. JIM EXON also worked for years to draw attention to our skyrocketing national debt, because he understands that this debt is not a legacy we want to leave for future generations.

Senator EXON has also been a good friend to our Nation's family farmers. Throughout his time in the Senate, he fought for sensible agricultural policies and a safety net for our Nation's producers. Senator EXON and I were a terrific team on the Senate Budget Committee, ensuring that deficit reduction efforts treated agriculture fairly. JIM EXON always understood the special needs of rural areas, and promoted programs like Essential Air Service, that are so important to smaller towns and cities.

During the last Congress Senator EXON chaired the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Surface Transportation. In 1994 he succeeded in ensuring the termination of the ICC would occur in a manner that still protected the needs of agricultural shippers who needed effective oversight of the rail industry. Senator EXON was also a champion of rail safety issues, and in 1994 led the fight to authorize rail safety programs and ensure minimum safety standards for railroad cars.

Senator EXON has also worked for some time on nuclear weapons testing issues, at one time chairing the Armed Services subcommittee with jurisdiction over this issue. He joined Senator HATFIELD and former Majority Leader George Mitchell in 1992 in support of a measure to restrict and eventually end U.S. testing of nuclear weapons. Just this week we have seen the fruits of those efforts, with the signing of a Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty at the United Nations. Senator EXON attended that signing, and should be proud that through the efforts of many, the world will be a safer place for our children and grandchildren.

Senator EXON will soon return to his home in Lincoln. With more time for leisure activities, I am certain he won't miss many baseball games when the St. Louis Cardinals are playing. But Jim EXON's dedication and expertise on many issues will be missed greatly in the U.S. Senate, even as Nebraskans welcome him home. I will miss my good friend and colleague.

THE 35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, today marks the 35th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in the first year of John F. Kennedy's Presidency.

The groundwork had been laid earlier in the Eisenhower administration, and the effort reached fruition in 1961. I was privileged to be part of that process as a new Senator in his first year of service.

I had become quite interested in the new processes of arms control, and I went with my more veteran and most distinguished colleagues, Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and Senator Joseph Clark of Pennsylvania, to argue the case that the new agency would have more weight and authority if it were established not by Executive order, but by the Congress as a statutory agency of the Federal Government. Fortunately, our friends in the White House agreed, and, over the next several months, the agency was created.

The Agency was started with much hope and high expectations. Some even feared that the Director of the Agency would be too powerful and might take steps that endangered the national security by moving too precipitously to control arms. In the process of com-

promise, the statute was worked out so that the Agency could fulfill high expectations, but the nation would be protected from precipitous arms control.

As matters have worked out, it is clear that those who feared that ACDA would go too far have had their fears unrealized. Those who hoped that the Agency would soar to new heights of arms control have had their dreams only partially realized. Nonetheless, the 35 years have been marked by many solid arms control achievements that have helped to ensure the protection of the national interests of the United States and that have served to demonstrate to the rest of the world that the United States is willing to continue on the course of arms control.

The achievements during the period of ACDA's existence include: the Limited Test Ban Treaty, Outer Space Treaty, Protocols to the Latin American Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty, Non-Proliferation Treaty, Seabed Arms Control Treaty, Biological Weapons Convention, Incidents at Sea Agreement, the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, the SALT I Interim Agreement, the Threshold Test Ban Treaty, Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty, Environmental Modification Convention, Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, START I Treaty, START II Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention to be considered a-new by the Senate next year, and the recently signed Comprehensive Test Ban.

The ACDA involvement has varied among the treaties—some were achieved by Presidential envoys, and some by officials of the Department of State. In other cases, the Agency had the lead. But, in almost all cases of significant agreements, the Agency provided much of the necessary technical and legal expertise and provided the continuing backstopping that was necessary for success in negotiations year-in and year-out. The Arms Control Agency has provided an arms control perspective and expertise whenever needed by others in the executive branch. In the most successful times for the Agency as in this administration, the President and the Secretary of State have turned to the Director and to his staff as principal advisers on arms control and, often, nonproliferation. This experience has demonstrated the wisdom of President Kennedy and the Congress in their decision to give arms control a real boost by creating the only separate agency of its type in the world.

Now that the cold war is over, some question the continued need for an arms control and disarmament agency. Some ask whether the essential tasks of arms control and disarmament are not done. In recent rounds of budget cutting, the Agency has indeed become beleaguered. It is fighting even now for a budgetary level at which it can successfully accomplish the tasks assigned to it. I hope very much that the effort to have ACDA adequately funded will

be successful. Should we not adequately fund ACDA—with a budgetary level equivalent to the cost of a single fighter aircraft—I believe that we will rue that decision when we come to realize that the Agency made a great difference to our true national security interests.

One can legitimately ask whether there are any truly significant challenges ahead. The able and dedicated current Director, John Holum, gave a chilling look at the challenges that truly face this country in the area of nonproliferation alone when he said in February at George Washington University:

"Meanwhile, the Soviet-American arms race has been overshadowed by a danger perhaps even more ominous: proliferation of weapons of mass destruction—whether nuclear, chemical or biological, or the missiles to deliver them—to rogue regimes and terrorists around the world.

By reputable estimates, more than 40 countries now would have the technical and material ability to develop nuclear weapons, if they decided to do so.

More than 15 nations have at least short range ballistic missiles, and many of these are seeking to acquire, or already have, weapons of mass destruction.

We believe that more than two dozen countries—many hostile to us—have chemical weapons programs.

The deadly gas attack in Tokyo's subway last year crossed a fateful threshold: the first use of weapons of mass destruction not by governments but terrorists, against an urban civilian population.

Revelations about Iraq have provided a chilling reminder that biological weapons are also attractive to outlaw governments and groups.

And recalling the World Trade Center and Oklahoma City bombings, we must ponder how even more awful the suffering would be if even primitive nuclear, chemical or biological weapons ever fell into unrestrained and evil hands."

Mr. President, I commend the Arms Control Agency and its excellent staff. I hope very much that the Congress of the U.S. will have the wisdom to provide the necessary support and backing to the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency as it serves us and all Americans in the future in helping to find ways to deal with the threats to peace and security, the United States, its friends, and its allies will face in the period ahead.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR HOWELL HEFLIN

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most well-liked and respected members of the Senate. Judge HEFLIN has brought to this body a keen mind, a sharp wit, and a pleasant sense of humor that makes it a true pleasure to serve with him. His retirement this year is a tremendous loss to the Senate, his State, and the Nation.

I have come to know The Judge best through our work on the Senate Agriculture Committee. Since I joined the Senate in 1987, Judge HEFLIN and I have worked together to improve the quality of life for rural citizens. Senator